

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 PRS-01 SIG-02 ISO-00 /012 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR

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S/PRS - F. BROWN (INFO)

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P 232256Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 236727

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XJ

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 23 PRESS BRIEFING

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM SPOKESMAN FRED BROWN'S
SEPTEMBER 23 BRIEFING:

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC?

A: YOU ARE REFERRING TO THE PNG'S?

Q: YES.

A: OUR EMBASSY IN TANANARIVE HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE

FOREIGN MINISTRY IN TANANARIVE THAT ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER DAVID C. BENNETT AND SERGEANT CHARLES L. ALLEN
HAVE BEEN DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA.

WE REJECT THESE CHARGES, AND OUR CHARGE D' AFFAIRES
IN TANANARIVE, MR. GILBERT SHEINBAUM, WILL BE TAKING THIS
MATTER UP WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Q: HAVE THEY LEFT THE COUNTRY?

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A: I BELIEVE THEY ARE ORDERED TO DEPART BY SEPTEMBER 23RD, WHICH IS TODAY.

Q: I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT. WHAT WAS IT?

A: IT WAS A LATE NEWS ITEM SAYING THAT THE MADAGASCAR GOVERNMENT HAD DECLARED THESE TWO PERSONNEL PERSONA NON GRATA. THAT IS ABOUT ALL THE INFORMATION I HAVE ON IT, JUST CONFIRMING THAT THEY --

Q: WILL WE RETALIATE IN KIND, FOLLOWING THE NORMAL PATTERN?

A: KEN, I DO NOT HAVE ANY IDEA ON THAT.

Q: THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT WITH THE MALAGASY EMBASSY HERE ON IT.

A: I HAVE NO INFORMATION AT THE MOMENT THAT THERE HAS BEEN, BUT THIS IS A VERY LATE-BREAKING ITEM.
ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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